



ARIZONA LEARNS and the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001: Assessment & Accountability

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Arizona Department of Education

Tom Horne

Superintendent of Public Instruction



No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

- New federal law, signed January 8, 2002
- Law amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
- Major themes:
 - Close the achievement gap within 12 years
 - Hold districts and schools accountable for student learning
 - Enhance services, providing options for students in schools that are not improving



NCLB Assessment

- Annual reading and mathematics testing for grades 3-8, plus once in grades 10-12 by 2005-2006
- By 2007-2008, science will be tested once in each grade cluster: 3-5, 6-9, and 10-12
- All students must be tested, including English language learners (after in U.S. for three years) and most special education students



NCLB Accountability

- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets for school growth – schools have 12 years to ensure every student is proficient (2013-2014)
- Applies to schools, districts, and states
- Data must be disaggregated by economic status, race and ethnicity, students with disabilities, and English language learners
- 95 percent of students must be tested



NCLB Accountability – Corrective Action

- Interventions if schools do NOT meet AYP
 - Year 1 – Arizona School Improvement Plan (ASIP)
 - Year 2 – ASIP; school choice
 - Year 3 – supplemental services; school choice
 - Year 4 – Local Education Agency (LEA) takes corrective action
 - Year 5 – LEA plans school restructuring



NCLB School Choice

- If a school does not meet AYP for two consecutive years, it must:
 - Notify parents of student option to transfer to another school within the district that is not identified for improvement
 - Provide transportation according to guidelines
 - Develop capacity to offer choice opportunities, addressing space issues



NCLB Supplemental Services

- Provided to students from low-income families who remain in Title I schools that fail to meet targets or AYP for three or more years
 - Services offered through state-approved public- or private-sector providers
 - Services may include tutoring and after-school programs



NCLB Parent Information

- Requires districts to inform parents about the choice options available to district students in schools identified for improvement
- Requires districts to inform parents that supplemental services will be available to low-income students attending chronically failing schools
- Establishes parents' "right to know" provision



NCLB Parent Information (cont.)

- Requires districts and schools to provide easy-to-read, detailed report cards
 - Included in the report cards are:
 - State assessment results by performance level
 - Percentage of each group of students not tested
 - Graduation rates for secondary school students
 - Performance of school districts on AYP
 - Made available no later than beginning of the school year



Arizona Assessment

- Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS)
 - Reading, writing, and mathematics
 - Currently administered in grades 3, 5, 8, and high school
 - By 2004-2005 school year, administered in grades 3-8 and high school
- Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)
 - Used to measure individual student growth



Arizona Accountability

- Established in ARIZONA LEARNS (A.R.S. §15-241)
 - “Purposeful accountability” – school accountability accompanied by a strong system of school improvement
- Recently revised to reflect NCLB requirements (House Bill 2277 passed in May 2003)

The logo consists of a black crosshair centered over a square. The square is divided into four quadrants: top-left is yellow, top-right is red, bottom-left is blue, and bottom-right is white. The text "ARIZONA LEARNS" is positioned to the right of the crosshair.

ARIZONA LEARNS

- Mandates research-based method of school evaluation
- Achievement Profile used to determine school classification that designates each public school as one of the following:
 - *Excelling*
 - *Highly Performing*
 - *Performing*
 - *Underperforming*
 - *Failing (to Meet Academic Standards)*



ARIZONA LEARNS (cont.)

- Establishes timeline and set of consequences for schools designated as *Underperforming* or *Failing (to Meet Academic Standards)*:
 - Develop Arizona School Improvement Plan (ASIP)
 - Present ASIP to public
 - Develop and disseminate written notice of designation to each residence within attendance area of school
 - Face possible restructuring or alternate governance/operation of school



ARIZONA LEARNS (cont.)

Achievement Profile

- Elementary school indicators:
 - Student performance on Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS)
 - AYP as defined by NCLB
 - MAP
- Secondary school indicators:
 - Student performance on Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS)
 - AYP as defined by NCLB
 - Drop out rate
 - Graduation rate



For additional information, please contact:

- Dr. Ildiko Laczko-Kerr
Deputy Associate Superintendent
Research and Policy Section
(602) 542-5151, e-mail: ilaczko@ade.az.gov
- Garrett Holm
Education Policy Analyst
Research, Standards and Accountability
(602) 364-1981, e-mail: gholm@ade.az.gov